

Message

---

**From:** Molina, Michael [molina.michael@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 5/14/2020 9:03:16 PM  
**To:** McIntosh, Chad [mcintosh.chad@epa.gov]  
**CC:** Dunn, Alexandra [dunn.alexandra@epa.gov]; elizabeth.t.bennett@who.eop.gov; Gunasekara, Mandy [gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: Mexico

ok – here is the link. So, it is published. MM

<https://www.jornadabc.mx/opinion/05-05-2020/la-reactivacion-pos-covid-19-sera-ecologica-o-no-sera>

---

**From:** McIntosh, Chad <mcintosh.chad@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 14, 2020 5:00 PM  
**To:** Molina, Michael <molina.michael@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Dunn, Alexandra <dunn.alexandra@epa.gov>; elizabeth.t.bennett@who.eop.gov; Beck, Nancy B. EOP/OMB <Nancy.B.Beck\_detalle@omb.eop.gov>; Gunasekara, Mandy <gunasekara.Mandy@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mexico

I will do a little digging. Chad

W.C. McIntosh  
Assistant Administrator  
International and Tribal Affairs  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
202-564-0306

On May 14, 2020, at 4:49 PM, Molina, Michael <molina.michael@epa.gov> wrote:

So, I kinda hesitate to forward this along, as I don't have an exact publishing source yet. But, I received it from a VERY trusted friend in Coast Rica who is the US rep to the Inter-American Cooperation on Ag. (former USDA official). He sent it to me as a flag because it very much counters our beliefs on a variety of issues. You may notice that the first paragraph repeats a few sentences a couple of times, I don't know if that was done on purpose for emphasis or if it was a lost in translation/cut and past issue. anyhow, as Chad knows, Senior Toledo is our counterpart in Mexico and fellow CEC member and USMCA partner.

Hey Michael,

are you aware of this op.ed.?

## VICTOR M. TOLEDO

A journalistic note has traveled the world in recent days. "Angela Merkel calls for a green reconstruction after the coronavirus crisis." This statement was made by the German minister at the Petersberg Dialogues, a meeting that has been held every year since 2010 on the climate crisis and brings together the ministers of the Environment from 30 countries, as well as

diplomatic, business and civil society leaders. Merkel reiterated Germany's commitment to the Paris Agreement and applauded the European Commission's "green plan" for that bloc to neutralize polluting emissions into the atmosphere by the middle of the century. During the event, Kristalina Georgieva, director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), declared: "If we want this recovery to be sustainable, if our world must transform to be more resilient, we have to do everything we can to promote a green recovery. " Why these statements? Because the powers know that this pandemic (and those that follow) come from the ecological and biological imbalances of industrial civilization. However, it is not the "green that I love you green" that arises from neoliberal governments and powerful international organizations, such as the IMF, that will mark an "alternative normality". After Covid-19, radical changes are urgently needed that go beyond the neoliberal vision of the world, and more and more citizens are becoming aware of this. It is not the "green that I love you green" that arises from neoliberal governments and powerful international organizations, such as the IMF, that will mark an "alternative normality." After Covid-19, radical changes are urgently needed that go beyond the neoliberal vision of the world, and more and more citizens are becoming aware of this. It is not the "green that I love you green" that arises from neoliberal governments and powerful international organizations, such as the IMF, that will mark an "alternative normality." After Covid-19, radical changes are urgently needed that go beyond the neoliberal vision of the world, and more and more citizens are becoming aware of this.

It is in this context that an anti-neoliberal government, like that of Mexico, has the magnificent opportunity to design and put into action a different economic and social recovery, founded on the ecological transition, since as we have shown human health depends on the health of the planet . The post-neoliberal revival of the country must contemplate at least six transitions linked to food, water, energy, conservation, industries and cities, and education.

Pandemics are alarm calls about imbalances caused by the expansion of industrial food production systems based on monocultures and agrochemicals and on farms (pigs, cattle and chickens) that use antibiotics, hormones and other chemical stimulants. Every pesticide is a war chemical that sooner or later returns as disease. For this reason, the immediate suppression of dozens of pesticides is urgent, starting with glyphosate, the most dangerous poison in the world, a law that declares the country free of transgenic crops, not only corn, but soy and cotton, the creation of markets short, organic and solidarity food that promote local self-sufficiency, municipal and regional (there are already more than 100 ecological street markets in the country) and the encouragement of cooperatives to deliver healthy food to urban consumers, in addition to rigorous labeling. The problems of obesity, cancer, heart disease and diabetes come from a food industry that dominates the entire production chain and includes the largest consortiums of corn and wheat flours (Gruma, Bimbo, Kellog's), meat, chicken and egg (Sukarne , Carroll, Kekén, Bachoco and Pilgrim's farms), and seeds, agrochemicals, pesticides and transgenics (Bayer, Syngenta and Corteva, the merger of Dow, Dupont and Pioneer). It is time for the State to take the food of Mexicans into its hands! Heart disease and diabetes come from a food industry that dominates the entire production chain and includes the largest consortiums of corn and wheat flours (Gruma, Bimbo, Kellog's), meat, chicken and eggs (Sukarne, Carroll Farms, Kekén, Bachoco and Pilgrim's), and seeds, agrochemicals, pesticides and transgenics (Bayer, Syngenta and Corteva, the merger of Dow, Dupont and Pioneer). It is time for the State to take the food of Mexicans into its hands! Heart disease and diabetes come from a food industry that dominates the entire production chain and includes the largest consortiums of corn and wheat flours (Gruma, Bimbo, Kellog's), meat, chicken and eggs (Sukarne, Carroll Farms, Kekén, Bachoco and Pilgrim's), and seeds, agrochemicals,

pesticides and transgenics (Bayer, Syngenta and Corteva, the merger of Dow, Dupont and Pioneer). It is time for the State to take the food of Mexicans into its hands!

A second issue is the transition from fossil energy to renewable energy. It is one thing to go through it under the private / state model based on state companies and private corporations, which reinforces centralized and vertical control, and another is the state / company path where the "energy switch" is left in the hands of society and their networks: management of solar, wind and hydraulic energy on a small scale and with affordable and accessible devices for homes, blocks, buildings, neighborhoods, communities, municipalities. That is called energy democracy. Blurred with oil, even though it will run out in six years, there is to date no active process of transition towards renewable energy in Mexico. This will make the country not fulfill its commitments to the Paris Agreement on climate change. During the transition, Pemex will have to become Solmex and the gas stations into electrical stations. A state-owned or public-private electric motor company will have to be created, taking advantage of the abundance of lithium, which should be considered strategic. Likewise, thousands of rural cooperatives producing renewable energy must be formed, creating the same number of "green jobs". Thus, a decentralized energy network of prosumers, that is, consumers who produce their own energy, will be integrated. creating the same number of "green jobs". Thus, a decentralized energy network of prosumers, that is, consumers who produce their own energy, will be integrated. creating the same number of "green jobs". Thus, a decentralized energy network of prosumers, that is, consumers who produce their own energy, will be integrated.

\* Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources

Michael D. Molina  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
[Molina.Michael@epa.gov](mailto:Molina.Michael@epa.gov)  
(202) 564-3972  
(202) 568-1602 (c)